



RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY

DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING & GENERAL SERVICES

SPECIAL DISTRICTS DIVISION

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable.

Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

DRINKING WATER WARNING

MD-43 Miami Creek water has high levels of Nitrate

**DO NOT GIVE THE WATER TO
INFANTS UNDER 6 MONTHS OLD OR PREGNANT WOMEN
OR USE IT TO MAKE INFANT FORMULA**

Results from water samples taken from the system wells this year show **nitrate** levels ranging from **26.4** to **76.0** milligrams per liter (mg/L). Some of these samples exceed the nitrate standard or maximum contaminant level (MCL), of 45 mg/L. Nitrate in drinking water is a serious health concern for infants less than six months old.

What should I do?

- **DO NOT GIVE THE WATER TO INFANTS.** *Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL may quickly become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die because high nitrate levels can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. Symptoms in infants can develop rapidly, with health deteriorating over a period of days. If symptoms occur, seek medical attention immediately.*
- **PREGNANT WOMEN SHOULD NOT CONSUME THE WATER.** *High nitrate levels may also affect the oxygen-carrying ability of the blood of pregnant women.*
- Water, juice, and formula for children under six months of age should not be prepared with tap water. Bottled water or other water low in nitrates should be used for infants until further notice.
- **DO NOT BOIL THE WATER.** Boiling, freezing, filtering, or letting water stand does not reduce the nitrate level. Excessive boiling can make the nitrates more concentrated, because nitrates remain behind when the water evaporates.
- If you have other health issues concerning the consumption of this water, you may wish to consult your doctor.

What happened? What is being done?

Nitrate in drinking water can come from natural, industrial, or agricultural sources (including septic systems, storm water run-off, and fertilizers). Levels of nitrate in drinking water can vary throughout the year. While some of the well samples exceed the MCL for nitrates, the water in your system is a blend of water from your wells and water from MD-60. This blended water has not exceeded the MCL, but because we cannot ensure that the level of nitrates in the system will remain below the MCL we must continue these notifications.

Last winter from November to April your system was supplied with 100% of its water from MD-60. We are doing that again this year and will continue until the demand increases and we reactivate your wells.

We continue to wait for completion of the review of the State Revolving Fund (SRF) Application by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) to find out the type and amount of funding they will provide. The Medium Household Income (MHI) Survey was completed and although there wasn't 100% participation, the results were that the system qualifies for the disadvantaged status and will have the best chance for grant funding for the needed improvements. The state funding crisis and requests for more information has delayed the process. We are looking into other sources of funding including the Federal Stimulus. We will continue to keep you informed of the progress and will request your participation in the decision making process.

Secondary Notification Requirements

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water.

Upon receipt of notification from a person operating a public water system, the following notification must be given within 10 days [Health and Safety Code Section 116450(g)]:

- *RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PROPERTY OWNERS OR MANAGERS (including nursing homes and care facilities): Must notify tenants.*

This notice is being sent to you by MD-43 Miami Creek Water System.

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For more information, you may call Madera County Special Districts at (559) 675-7820 or
2037 W. Cleveland Ave., Madera, CA 93637

Best regards,



Steven Norman
Special Districts Manager

Cc: Environmental Health
Districts file